Dear Orestes,

3/27/75

Your valuable letter of the 21st came here promptly and I read as much as I could without a dictionary while a new tire was being put on and balanced. I also read the very helpful clipping. (I'm glad you left the date on because that also is important.) I understood enough of the letter to know that unless I am careful I may get the wrong impression so I'll let it wait until I can get together with my trustworthy ~~friend~~ friend Jim, who studied Spanish in college.

This particular newspaper story illustrates the importance of getting stories from local papers and from papers other than are available around here. The story itself was not new to me. I knew about it prior to the developments to which it refers. What makes it important is one particular set of facts that did not appear anywhere else. Not the story itself. These separate few details. So, I thank you and I do hope you will continue to take the time to send those things you think can be or interest or value to me. I fully expect to be able to use that little part of the long story in court at the right time.

I am sorry to stay so much too busy. The regular work, if there had been nothing else, would be too much for one man. But recently there has been more. First I have to send out all the orders for the books. This time of the year is the only time we have a regular income. My wife is a tax consultant. And then work that I started years ago is coming to a head and with success. You saw one example in the new book. Two other suits have turned out well. In one I obtained what I was suing for before going to court. I have it and making the proper use takes time. In that case between not having the money to pay the printer or the time to do the writing I have had to give up even thinking of writing a book about it although that could be a very important book. I want the information to appear in honest form, however, not just as another sensation. So, it takes some time. In the second after I filed the suit the government initiated negotiations for settlment out of court. They say they will give me what I've been asking for. We'll see. But again, friend, the time it takes! And the cost when there is no reserve and no real income. God knows what kind of bill they will give me for this.

Other things are necessary to a writer. Two days of the past two weeks there have been interviews that took up most of those days. Today it lasted until after 2 p.m. But when that story appears, if it is an honest one, it can be very helpful.

Then there were two people here from a publication to discuss a story and to make an inquiry into whether they can get interested in some of the work I've done but can t pay to get printed. Whether or not it is successful, it is time that comes from too little time. And of course these kinds of efforts are essential if my work it to be available and if I am to merely survive.

I tell you these things so you will understand why I do not write. It is not lack of interest. I wish it were possible for us to spend more time together.

If I do not respond, do not for a minuet think I have not paid close attention to what you tell me. You have been helpful and I appreciate it. It is my situation. I am a writer who has not been able to write for six months!

I am sorry you do not use your tape recorder. Then there would be no problem with translation because I do not speak Spanish. And I could listen to your tape while I drive. Now I spent four fifteen minute trips each day taking my wife to work, going home, going for her and bringing her back. When I go to Washington the round trip is two hours. If you used your recorder it would be much easier for me. There is another bvalue. At some point all my files will wind up in a college as an archive. What you tell me then would not have to be translater and there would be a permanent record for hostory in your voice. (You can fix a cassette so it can't be erased by accident by breaking out the tabs on the back.)

I did make out the right initials in your letter and with whom they are connected. This is what makes me want to be absolutely certain of what you say and not to depend on what I can piece together with the help of a dictionary. But aside from my own time pressures that keep me away from jim he has a deadline on filing an appeal in court. Much work for him. Thanks you again, good friend. Please keep telling me and sending what you can, for which sincere thanks. And my best wishes to you all! Sincerely,